

CBIAC Supports State Agriculture Security

CBIAC is helping prepare the Delaware/Maryland/Virginia (Delmarva) region to prevent, protect, respond to, mitigate, and recover from a potential Avian Influenza (bird flu) outbreak. Avian Influenza is a highly contagious viral disease affecting mainly chickens, turkeys, ducks, and other birds. However, a form of the virus with the ability to infect humans has been identified and has gained worldwide attention. Some say that the 1918 Spanish Flu pandemic, which killed 20 million people worldwide, may also have been a form of bird flu that involved a genetic change.

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CBIAC Co-Sponsors 2nd Department of Defense Sustainable Ranges Initiative Conference & Exhibition

CBIAC co-sponsored the 2nd Department of Defense Sustainable Ranges Initiative Conference and Exhibition organized by the Department of Defense's Sustainable Ranges Integrated Product Team. The Team is led by the Under Secretary of Defense for Readiness; the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Installations and Environment; and the Deputy Director, Operational Test and Evaluation. The Senior Readiness Oversight Council, chaired by the Deputy Secretary of Defense, established the Sustainable Ranges Initiative in 2001 as Department of Defense's approach to combating encroachment and ensuring the long-term viability of its training and testing ranges and installations throughout the world.

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CBIAC Co-Sponsors 2nd Department of Defense Sustainable Ranges Initiative Conference & Exhibition (continued)

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The Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) and the Services are working cooperatively on a comprehensive solution to encroachment through cooperative policy development; fiscal programming; legislative and regulatory solutions; leadership and organizational adjustments; compatible land use planning; and outreach/stakeholder involvement. The Sustainable Ranges Initiative is working with partners inside and outside Department of Defense to sustain readiness and preserve the lands entrusted to its care.

The Sustainable Ranges Initiative sponsored the Conference to provide a venue for the exchange of information and ideas that will benefit all stakeholders involved in the military range domain. Broad topic areas included Infrastructure and Modernization; Operations; Maintenance; Encroachment; Environmental Responsibility; Outreach; and New Technologies.

The Conference was held August 22-25 2005 at the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center in San Antonio, Texas. Experts in all areas of range management and sustainability participated. The technical program was comprised of OSD panel and service-oriented panel discussions, and approximately 150 platform and poster presentations. The exhibition featured a large number of displays - including the CBIAC's - representing government and industry. CBIAC co-sponsorship and support was key to the success of this important conference, and made important contributions to the Sustainable Ranges Initiative.

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